

## **FINAL REPORT**

for

**USAID Grant Number 194-G-00-02-00106-00 --- Signed on 25 September 2002**

**Annual Junior Scholars' Workshops**

**Project completion date (as stated in contract): 30 June 2004**

**Final report due date: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2004**

### **SUBMITTED TO:**

**The United States Agency for International Development  
("USAID" or "The Grantor")**

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## **A. Purpose of Grant**

The goals, purpose, and objectives of the grant activity, two Junior Scholars' Workshops, as stated in the Program Description, is to:

- ⇒ Create a forum for international and inter-generational academic exchange;
- ⇒ Bring together young scholars from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, FY Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and Kosovo;
- ⇒ Form a lasting network of young historians;
- ⇒ Increase and improve the communication and understanding between citizens of post-conflict countries in the Balkans;
- ⇒ Contribute to stability and reconciliation in the region.

The CDRSEE can conclude confidently that the grant activity has achieved the above stated purpose and objective. The participants in the two workshops evaluated the activity, and described the two workshops as a valuable space for genuine and quality exchange in an international setting. The academic level of the workshops was considered to be excellent and the discussions were rigorous and useful.

The workshops brought together academically advanced young scholars from the target country, who do not have the opportunity to participate in international events, nor to meet their colleagues from neighbouring countries. The organisers received 43 applications in 2003 and 60 applications in 2004 from young scholars for the two meetings. Applicants were chosen to participate based on academic excellence, as judged by the CDRSEE's Board of Eminent Scholars, as well as geographic balance. Both years most applications came from Bulgaria, and the least from Albania. Preference was given to applicants who were studying in universities in the Balkans, but participants were also accepted from nationals of Balkan countries who were studying abroad, usually in the UK or USA.

The programme succeeded in forming a lasting network of historians under the umbrella of the CDRSEE. The project co-ordinator included all of the names and email addresses of over 100 applicants in the CDRSEE mailing list. A quarterly newsletter is sent out to this list which consists of historians, NGO activists, businesspeople, and other CDRSEE associates. Anyone can sign up on the CDRSEE mailing list at [www.cdsee.org](http://www.cdsee.org). The CDRSEE also created a group mailing list so that the scholars can communicate with each other, which they still do as a group and individually.

Has this programme contributed to stability and reconciliation in the region? Since this is a long-term goal, it is impossible to measure in the two-year period of this grant. The CDRSEE can conclude that it has contributed to the on-going and long-term process towards stability and reconciliation. When the Junior Scholars are professors, teachers, and researchers in their field in the future, they will be able to judge if there has been progress made towards these two goals.

## B. Period of Agreement

The grant activity, Two Junior Scholars Workshops, took place during the period of agreement, 30 September 2002 to 30 June 2004. The grant period divides into 7 quarters; the CDRSEE has submitted 7 quarterly reports during the grant period. The first workshop was implemented by the CDRSEE in Sofia, Bulgaria on 26-28 June 2003 during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the grant period, and the second workshop in Thessaloniki, Greece on 18-20 June 2004, during the 7<sup>th</sup> quarter of the grant period. Full reports on the activities are contained within the individual quarterly reports. This final report provides an overview of the whole grant period.

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The total expense of the activity was 1,332.78 USD less than budgeted, or 1.7% below budget. The actual contribution from USAID was slightly lower than agreed due to a delay on the part of the recipient. The Cost Share amount of 5,919.52 USD was contributed by the CDRSEE to this activity.